Budget Council Annual Report

In the academic year 2023-24, the Budget Council revived work on the <u>Financial Transparency</u> Portal.

The portal content is based on UF's Enterprise Analytics and offers detailed yearly budget data and current expenditures; past expenditures can be located as well as student credit hour (SCH) data.



Access is in principle available to all faculty via GatorLink authentication (via Firefox browser only!).

However, often the access is not automatically provided and the faculty's unit DSA (directory security administrator) needs to assign a required UF FI UNIVERSAL INQUIRY role.

While the portal provides, in principle, detailed, faculty-readable information, it is necessary to familiarize oneself with the data access and the meaning of entries: for example, one has to go to the budget page and click on a column header for the budget source to see the expenditures. Also understanding terms, like *fiscal year* (this report was written in fiscal year 2024) or *E&G*, is helpful.

Ongoing work and future work of the budget council is to look at use-cases and conversion to visuals akin to <u>UF's Institutional Planning and Research portal</u>.

The Financial Transparency Portal should be announced regularly in newsletters.

Budget Council member, John Kraft participated in the Faculty Burden Reduction initiative, in the committee focusing on reducing unnecessary overhead in the area of procurement and travel.

McKinsey was hired (ca \$4 mio in Summer 2023) to assess the university, and (\$1.2 mio in Jan-March 2024) to help with the Burden Reduction (see January Minutes).

The Budget Council invited several administrators to shed light on budget issues including:

- George Kolb, Assistant Vice President, Financial Analysis and Budget, patiently and helpfully explained the language and details of the "data cube" underlying the Financial Transparency Portal. He is an ex-officio member of the Council;
- Taylor Jantz and Kevin Lintner, co leaders of the CFO transition team until a new Senior Vice President and CFO is named, confirmed changes in the budget model in January; recurring budget items are moved out of the Provost's budget; the President's budget was increased; interest accruing while faculty raises are negotiated, agreed on, but not executed by the administration is amalgamated with UFs money; money from the State is distributed by various President Sasse Strategic Initiative Competitions among faculty.
- Maria Gutierrez Martin, Interim Vice President of University of Florida Advancement and Associate Vice President for the <u>UF Foundation</u>, explained "<u>UF Advancement</u>" (gifts, alumni relations and managing the 2.3B endowment) at the March meeting; and
- Cathy Lebo, Associate and Director of Institutional <u>Planning and Research</u>, and her office gather data on the <u>"Accountability Metrics"</u> used by the Board of Governors (BOG) and the State to plan and allocate. Sources include Academic Analytics and similar commercial products.